

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 04415 161946Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 /096 W
-----115918 162331Z /70/65

R 121457Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6366
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USDOEHQ WASHDC
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 04415

USIAEA

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y LINE OF TEXT ADDED PARA FIVE

DEPT PASS IO/SCT
DOE PASS AMMONS AND MCCLARY, IA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, APER, IAEA
SUBJECT: IAEA STAFFING -- SOVIET CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR
OF DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

1. SOVIET MISOFF RECENTLY INFORMED US THAT SOVIETS HAD
NOMINATED A CANDIDATE FOR IAEA POST OF DIRECTOR, DIVISION
OF PERSONNEL. THIS APPROACH APPARENTLY WAS MADE AS
RESULT OF RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH SOVIETS URGED
CLOSER CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. RE CANDIDATES FOR SENIOR
IAEA POSTS.

2. FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITHIN MISSION, MISOFF AD-
VISED SOVIET MISOFF THAT U.S. WOULD HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEM
WITH SOVIET NATIONAL OCCUPYING TOP PERSONNEL POST IN
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENNA 04415 161946Z

AGENCY, AND THAT NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WOULD ALMOST CER-
TAINLY HAVE SIMILAR DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING SUCH AN
APPOINTMENT.

3. I FOLLOWED UP WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR EROFEEV.
EROFEEV NOTED THAT U.S. OCCUPIES POST OF DDG FOR ADMINIS-
TRATION, TO WHICH DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL REPORTS, AND ALSO

POST OF DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, IMPLYING AN UNUSUAL DEGREE OF INFLUENCE AND CONTROL IN THE FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AFFAIRS OF THE AGENCY. I RESPONDED BY INDICATING THAT SOVIETS HAD AS MANY DIRECTOR-LEVEL POSTS AS WE; THAT U.S. WAS A MAJOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR TO AGENCY AND THUS ENTITLED TO OCCUPY THE BUDGET AND FINANCE POST; AND THAT PERSONNEL HEAD WAS A VERY SENSITIVE POSITION.

4. IN A SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH DIRGEN EKLUND, I INFORMED HIM OF MY DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR EROFEEV. DIRGEN EKLUND MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT HE HAS NO RPT NO INTENTION OF APPOINTING A SOVIET NATIONAL TO THIS POST.

5. COMMENT: WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT THAT SOVIETS WOULD SERIOUSLY ENTERTAIN NOTION OF HAVING A SOVIET NATIONAL OCCUPY THE TOP PERSONNEL POST. IT MAY BE THAT 'AMBASSADOR EROFEEV IS ATTEMPTING TO USE THIS NOMINATION TO EXTRACT SOMETHING ELSE FROM DIRGEN EKLUND. IT MAY ALSO REFLECT SOVIET FRUSTRATION AT INABILITY TO GAIN ACCESS TO MORE PERSONNEL INFORMATION IN THE AGENCY. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT LAST YEAR THE DIRGEN RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO PLACE A SOVIET NATIONAL IN THE DIVISION OF PERSONNEL FOR THE FIRST TIME, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT STEPS WERE TAKEN INTERNALLY TO RESTRICT HIS ACCESS TO A VARIETY OF PERSONNEL-TYPE INFORMATION.
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PAGE 03 VIENNA 04415 161946Z

6. WHATEVER THE SOVIET MOTIVATION, IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT DIRGEN WILL PICK SOVIET CANDIDATE FOR POST OF DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PERSONNEL, AND I AM CONFIDENT HE WOULD CHECK CAREFULLY WITH US BEFORE FILLING THIS POST. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR SITUATION, BUT DO NOT BELIEVE ANY FURTHER DEMARCHE IS NECESSARY AT THIS TIME.

7. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH ME, DG SAID HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE CONSULTING BOARD ON PERSONNEL DIVISION POST UNTIL SEPTEMBER. HE REPEATED THAT HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT A SOVIET CANDIDATE, BUT INDICATED SOVIETS WERE PRESSING FOR "COMPENSATION" IN SOME MORE JUNIOR PERSONNEL DIVISION POST (NOTE PARA 5 ABOVE). I RECALLED--AS HAD DG--EARLIER PRACTICE OF NOT RPT NOT HAVING EITHER SOVIET OR AMERICAN NATIONALS IN THIS DIVISION AND SAID I FELT IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT SOVIET NOT RPT NOT BE GIVEN POSITION WITH ACCESS TO SENSITIVE PERSONAL RECORDS. KIRK

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